

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

AGR-05 AID-05 EB-07 RSC-01 COME-00 TRSE-00 SWF-01

AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-06 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 OES-03 OIC-02 OMB-01 ABF-01 INRE-00 /106 W

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INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 5890

DEPT PASS MOREY IO: AGRICULTURE PAALBERG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: FAO, AGR, UNGA

SUBJ: WORLD FOOD COUNCIL

1. STATEMENT QUOTED BELOW INTERPRETING PARA 11 OF WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE RESOLUTION HAS BEEN DRAFTED BY UN AND FAO SECRETARIATS, AND INTERESTED DELEGATIONS INCLUDING PAKISTAN, ZAMBIA, AND US. WFC ITEM WILL BE DISCUSSED IN COMMITTEE THIS AFTERNOON. ALTHOUGH EC GOVERNMENTS HAVE TO REFER MATTER TO CAPITALS, USUN BELIEVES THAT FINAL COMMITTEE DECISION WILL BE TAKEN TODAY. ONLY FRANCE AMONG EC GOVERNMENTS APPEARS TO BE IN MOOD TO DELAY THE DECISION. IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT FRANCE RESERVED ON WFC FOLLOW UP.

2. USUN URGES THAT INTERPRETIVE TEXT BE ACCEPTED BY YSG. WE FIND IT TO BE REASONABLE AND FAITHFUL SYNOPSIS OF ROME AGREEMENT. NOT TO ACCEPT IT WOULD REOPEN PANDORA'S BOX.

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QUOTE

STATEMENT BY MR I HAMID (VICE CHAIRMAN) INTRODUCING DRAFT
RESOLUTION A/C.2/L.142 - WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE

1. DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C. C 2/L.1421 IS AN OUTCOME OF INTENSIVE
CONSULTATIONS THAT CONSISTENTLY AIMED AT ARRIVING AT CONSENSUS
TEXT. THIS HAS BEEN ACHIEVED.

2. THE MAIN CONCERN OF ALL DELEGATIONS IS THAT THE WORLD FOOD
COUNCIL
SHOULD BE ELECTED BY THE CURRENT GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND THAT THE
COUNCIL SHOULD BE ABLE TO HOLD ITS FIRST SESSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

IT IS , THEREFORE, IMPORTANT TO HAVE THE SECRETARIAT
FOR THE COUNCIL ESTABLISHED AND OPERATING IMMEDIATELY.

3. SOME QUESTIONS HAVE BEEN RAISED WITHIN AND WITHOUT THE
INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS AS TO THE FRAME WORK WITHIN WHICH THE
SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS SHOULD ACT AND CONSULT WITH
THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE FAO AS REGARDS THE SETTING UP OF THE
SECRETARIAT OF THE COUNCIL.
OBVIOUSLY THIS RELATES TO HOW THIS COMMITTEE, AND ULTIMATELY
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, UNDERSTANDS THE SUBSTANCE OF OPERATIVE PARAG-
RAPHS 11 AND 12.

4. AS REGARDS THE WORLD FOOD COUNCIL: RESOLUTION XXII OF THE
CONFERENCE, WHICH WE HEREBY CONFIRM AND ENDORSE AMONG OTHER
RESOLUTIONS, ENVISAGED THE COUNCIL AS AN ORGAN OF THE UNITED NATIONS
REPORTING TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THROUGH THE ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL.
THIS IS CONFIRMED BY OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 7 OF A/C.
2/L.1421. FURTHERMORE, THE SECRETARIAT OF THE COUNCIL WILL BE
WITHIN THE OVERALL JURISDICTION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL.

5. OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 4 (B) OF RESOLUTION XXII
RECOMMENDS THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE SERVICES WITHIN THE
FRAMEWORK OF FAO, WITH HEADQUARTERS IN ROME. THIS FORMULATION
OF SUB-PARAGRAPH 4 (B) WAS COMPROMISE, THE INTENTION
BEING THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UN AND THE DIRECTOR-
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GENERAL OF FAO WILL BE ABLE TO FILL IN THE DETAILS THOROUGH
DISCUSSIONS AND ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THEM. THE MORE IMPORTANT
ISSUE IS THAT THE COUNCIL AND SECRETARIAT MUST START
WORK AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

6. WHAT IS ENVISAGED IS A SMALL AND EFFECTIVE SECRETARIAT,
NOT IN FAO,BUT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF FAO. THE PHRASE
"WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF FAO" WOULD MEAN THAT THE SERVICES

AND EXPERTISE OF FAO BE GEARED TOWARDS SERVICING THE COUNCIL, WITHIN THE MANDATE ENTRUSTED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL. THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO HAS ALREADY PLEDGED TO EXTEND EVERY POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE; AND CONSULTATIONS WITH A VIEW TO FINALIZING THE NECESSARY ARRANGMENTS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION XXII ARE EXPECTED TO BE INITIATED SOON.

7. FURTHERMORE, IS IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF FAO AND OTHER UNITED NATIONS RELEVANT AGENCIES WILL WORK OUT FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RESOLUTION AFFECTING BOTH THE UNITED NATIONS AND FAO, TOGETHER WITH OTHER RELEVANT UN AGENCIES. IT IS UNDERSTANDING OF THE COMMITTEE THAT THE EXPENDITURE TO BE INCURRED BY THE U.N. WOULD BE COVERED FROM THE REGULAR BUDGET OF THE UNITED NATIONS.

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